

protocols of research we can imagine no more delightful or refreshing mental food than recourse to the pages of this volume. It is the sort of a work that would well adorn the tired man's bedroom table and not only enlighten him but decidedly entertain him. On the other hand it must not be thought that we are trying to judge the work cavalierly, for the pages are redolent with cases in which the author betrays a judgment born of a mind thoroughly and soundly surgical, and he is to be thanked for giving to the profession a book which most satisfactorily fills its own peculiar niche.

The Bacillus of Long Life. By Lorendon M. Douglass, F. R. S. E. Publisher, S. P. Putnam, London, New York.

We have here a book that is very much better than its title. First it concerns not a bacillus but most of the bacilli of milk. Secondly, it deals but in a passing way with longevity; thereby it is not a fanciful literary production, as its name might suggest, but a very thorough, practical, and scientific treatise on all the phases of the subject of lactic acid formation in milk. From the first chapter on, the history of soured milk as aliment, through the subsequent ones on the chemistry of milk, the handling of milk, the bacteriology of milk, the preparation of soured milks in private families, and for commercial distribution, we have a book giving concise facts, scientific experiment and lucid instruction. It is a book without padding, and yet it is a most readable book. The work is particularly valuable to the medical reader, in that it provides a corrective to many of the wild statements concerning the modes of using acid forming bacilli and offers useful suggestions. Thus we learn that with some forms of defective digestion, skimmed milk, whey or even extract of malt, may form the culture medium and vehicle of administration. A large assortment of microphotographs, and cuts amply illustrate the text.

H. D'A. P.

Diseases of Nose and Throat. By St. Clair Thomson, M. D., F. R. C. P., F. R. C. S. Published by Appleton & Co., 1912.

In *Diseases of the Nose and Throat* by St. Clair Thomson, we have the best book on this subject for students and practitioners that has yet appeared in the English language. It is what it purports to be, a ready reference, arranged so as to be easily comprehended. The author has happily omitted a large mass of material that so often unnecessarily burdens works of this character. The anatomy and physiology for instance, have been given scant space, as have the subjects of malformations and plastic operations, whereas adenoids, accessory sinus inflammations and larynx affections have been treated with a modern grasp of the subject that is seldom shown by our modern book compilers. The chapter on adenoids alone is a masterpiece and well worth having in one's library. The book is not overloaded with an extensive bibliography; at the same time enough is given to afford a good working basis for one doing research work.

H. B. G.

Manual of Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat. By John J. Kyle, B. S., M. D. 3rd edition. Published by P. Blackston's Sons & Co., Philadelphia, 1911. Price, \$3.00; flexible leather.

In the third edition of the *Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat* by Dr. J. J. Kyle, we have a valuable addition to our rapidly growing literature on the specialty covered. The chapters on Embryology, Anatomy, Methods of Examination and Diseases of the Nose, Throat and Accessory Sinuses are especially noteworthy, containing the subjects in particularly complete form. There are

some portions of the book, however, which, in the opinion of the reviewer, could well be revised. In a manual on any specialty one would hardly look for a general dissertation on bacteriology, pathology and immunity such as appears here. This could easily give way to a better adaptation of these subjects to the specialties in hand, under the assumption that the student was already acquainted with their general principles. The field is most interesting and important as taken up by Körner and Neumann.

The paragraphs on Paraffin Prothesis should either be left out or made more extensive as there is hardly enough warning given to the student of its extreme danger. Paraffin, either hard, soft or in mixtures, in the hands of those who are unacquainted with its uses and accidents, is a very dangerous element and yet can be made a valuable adjunct to surgery in proper hands. No warning is given save that of Exxstein and that one is incorrect as proven by Gersuny.

The chapter on Labyrinth Suppuration follows those of other books in English on the same subject; it is exceedingly incomplete and inaccurate. All writers of books on this subject would do well to peruse carefully the monographs of Dr. G. W. Mackenzie.

H. B. G.

—A Manual of Materia Medica. By E. Quin Thornton. Published by Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York. 1911.

This manual by Thornton has been written according to views formed by the author after a number of years of teaching, and embodies such facts about drugs as he considers essential for a student entering upon a thorough course in therapeutics. He has aimed to present all the essential and useful data about the official drugs and chemicals, purposely avoiding discussions of physiological actions and medicinal uses, both subjects which he considers belong to the domain of therapeutics.

Part I takes up dosage, methods of administration of drugs, prescription writing with all the Latin essentials, incompatibility, and weights and measures. The different subjects are not discussed extensively, but no fault can be found with their presentation.

Part II takes up alphabetically all drugs, chemicals and preparations official in the United States Pharmacopoeia. Latin and English names are given, also synonyms and the sources, ordinary physical properties, important constituents, doses, etc. The subject-matter, while brief, is yet well presented and covers the essential of the subject as outlined by the author in his preface.

Part III presents alphabetically a complete list of the United States Pharmacopoeial preparations arranged according to pharmaceutical classes. The methods of preparation are stated. The section is intended for those working in the laboratory or pharmacy.

The manual can be safely recommended as a safe and satisfactory book on the subject of materia medica, pure and simple.

H. W. ALLEN.

Practical Electro-Therapeutics and X-Ray Therapy. By J. M. Martin, M. D. Published by C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, 1912. Price, \$4.00.

In this volume Dr. Martin has succeeded in condensing the vast field of his subject to a clear, concise and yet adequate minimum of the essentials. It is apparent that each division of this book has been written in the light of the author's personal experience; therefore, there is a pleasant sense of intimacy and authority conveyed by his book that is refreshing when contrasted with the rather indefinite conclusions one so often encounters in books on electro-therapy.

The first 100 pages contains a really entertaining and simple exposition of the physics of electricity